1876—CITY DOCUMENT No. 5.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF NEW BEDFORD.

NEW BEDFORD:
E. ANTHONY & SONS, PRINTERS TO THE CITY.
1876.

Officers of the Free Public Library,

FOR THE YEAR 1876.

TRUSTEES.

EX OFFICIO. TERMS EXPIRE JANUARY, 1877.

ABRAHAM H. HOWLAND, JR., Mayor of the City.
EDWIN DEWS, President of the Common Council.
JOHN B. BAYLIES, Chairman of the Committee of the City Council on Public Instruction.

ELECTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.

S. GRIFFITTS MORGAN,	Term expires Jan. 1877.
THOMAS H. KNOWLES,	Term expires Jan. 1877.
GEORGE HOWLAND, JR.,	Term expires Jan. 1878.
GEORGE H. DUNBAR,	Term expires Jan. 1878.
WARREN LADD,	Term expires Jan. 1879.
OLIVER A. ROBERTS,	Term expires Jan. 1879.

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD.

THE MAYOR.

CLERK.

OLIVER A. ROBERTS.

COMMITTEES.

On the Library—The Mayor, Messrs. Ladd, Howland, Morgan, and Dunbar.
On the Building—Messrs. Baylies and Dews.
On Binding and Blanks—Messrs. Knowles and Morgan.
On the Museum—Messrs. Morgan, Roberts, and Dunbar.

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE LIBRARY.

GEORGE H. DUNBAR.

LIBRARIAN.

ROBERT C. INGRAHAM.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS.

JOSEPHINE A. MERRICK, MARY E. BROWN.

REPORT.

To the City Council of the City of New Bedford:

GENTLEMEN, — The Trustees of the Free Public Library, in submitting their Twenty-Fourth Annual Report, do not deem it necessary to enter upon an elaborate discussion of the principles upon which it is based, the initial steps of its organization, or the results which have emanated from it. Year by year it has had a healthy and steady growth, its roots striking down deeper and deeper into the hearts and minds of the people, until it has become, like schools and churches, one of the essential elements of education, culture, refinement, and pleasure.

The City Council in the past has ever yielded to it a wise and generous support, and as it increases in ability and strength its genial influence will be more broadly felt; and we doubt not in the future, as in the past, the City Council's aid and support will always be commensurate with the importance of its mission and the beneficial results evolved therefrom.

READING ROOM.

During the latter part of the year 1873, a stand was erected in the centre of the library room, on which were placed some of the leading political newspapers from different parts of the Union, for free reading by the public.

The result of the experiment has thus far demonstrated the importance of the movement, and indicated the necessity of more enlarged and better facilities and accommodations. Were it not for the general stagnation of business, enforcing a reduction of taxes by a rigid economy in every department of the city government, we should recommend that the room upon the lower floor, now occupied by the city clerk, be vacated by him and fitted up for a free public reading room, into which all the newspapers and periodicals now taken should be placed, with such additions as experience and the state of our funds might dictate.

INCREASED ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE LIBRARY.

The natural growth of the library will soon demand more room in which to place the new works purchased or donated. It cannot be many years before the whole of the Library building will be required for purposes connected with the library, and we will suggest that a wise forethought will induce the City Council to take into consideration the question of what shall be done with the city offices which now occupy the lower floor of the Library building when that time arrives.

The library has been engrafted into our educational system, and must of necessity expand with an increasing population and the industrial growth and prosperity of our city.

THE LIBRARY.

The following statistics, furnished by the librarian, give a clear record of the operations of the library for the year 1875.

Total number of volumes taken from the library during the year has been *fifty-five thousand seven hundred and seventy-one;* an increase over the year 1874 of *nine thousand one hundred and thirty-one.*

The daily average of volumes delivered was *one hundred and seventy-one.*

Total number of cards issued, *fourteen thousand one hundred and eighty-five;* an increase for the present year of *eight hundred and eighty-five.*

The number of volumes purchased during the year was *eight hundred.* The number donated, bound volumes *eighty-seven*, unbound *twenty-eight*, and *three hundred and fifty-four* pamphlets.

The number of volumes in the library, *thirty-three thousand.*

On the reading desks and stand there are *nine* newspapers, and *one hundred and thirteen* periodicals.

These statistics show a very satisfactory result, and enforce what we have said in relation to more accommodations which the near future will require.

In regard to the character of the books taken from the library, we have not the means of showing the ratio between fiction and scientific works, but are satisfied from observation that there is a gradual improvement in the class of books delivered and a toning up in the habits and

tastes of those who draw their moral and intellectual food from the library.

CATALOGUE.

The second supplement to the catalogue is nearly finished, and will be ready for use early in the year 1876.

During the last two years quarterly bulletins of new books purchased have been published, besides advertising lists of accessions in the newspapers.

The trustees commenced the publication of a bulletin of accessions as an experiment, but the result, indicated by the constant call for the new books purchased immediately after the publication of each bulletin, proves it to have been a wise and useful measure, and the same is true of the newspaper advertisements.

THE MUSEUM.

The Museum of Natural History presented to the city by the Young Men's Natural History Society of New Bedford, and placed in charge of the Trustees of the Free Public Library, and which was in 1874 leased to the Marion Natural History Society, remains in the rooms of that society in Marion, where it is open to the public every Saturday afternoon. The interest of the members of the society and of the people of Marion in the subject of natural history is increasing, and the museum is in reasonably good condition and well cared for. A few specimens of minerals have been added to it the past year by exchanging duplicates.

In the appendix will be found a detailed statement of our expenditures during the past year, and a clear state-

ment of the present condition of the several Trust Funds, and also a list of the donations received, with the names of the donors.

Dec. 29, 1875. Adopted by the Board of Trustees.

B. F. H. REED, Clerk.

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN,

Jan. 3d, 1876.

Received and ordered to be printed in City Documents, and sent down for concurrence.

HENRY T. LEONARD, City Clerk.

IN COMMON COUNCIL,

Jan. 3, 1876.

Concurred.

WM. A. CHURCH, Clerk.

APPENDIX.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The account of the expenses of the library for the past year from the ordinary funds of the city treasury, is as follows:

1875, Jan. 2.	Balance to credit of library account,		$202.10
28.	One half net receipts from dog licenses,		799.39
March 25.	Annual appropriation,		3,000.00
Jan. Mch. & Dec.	Sundry receipts for rent of Cummings Hall,		30.90
May 14.	Sale of stove,		.40
	Duplicate bill,		4.50
			$4,037.29
Bills approved.	Feb. 6,	$72.16	
	27,	4.50	
	March 27,	635.70	
	April 24,	101.09	
	May 29,	72.02	
	June 26,	711.00	
	July 31,	261.59	
	Sept. 25,	799.25	
	Oct. 30,	135.78	
	Dec. 29,	769.99	3,563.08
Present balance to credit of Library,			$474.21

The above expenditures in detail are as follows:

Books and periodicals,		$68.45
Binding,		300.82
Stereoscopes and multiscope,		4.60
Museum:		
Rent of hall,	$75.00	
Gas,	6.90	81.90
Salaries of librarian and assistants,		2,712.50

Printing and advertising:		
Extra copies 23d annual report,	$37.45	
Sundry jobs of cards, labels, blanks, &c.,	39.00	
Quarterly bulletin catalogues,	180.70	
Advertising books recently added,	58.00	315.15
Blank-books,		1.60
Postage,		3.00
Matting, and putting down same,		69.56
Gas-burners,		4.50
Waste-basket,		1.00
		$3,563.08

A summary of the librarian's account is as follows:

1875, Jan. 1. Cash on hand,		$43.32
Receipts from sales of catalogues and bulletins,		18.44
Fines,		238.35
Miscellaneous,		.85
		$300.96
Paid for books and periodicals,	$69.70	
Stationery and covering paper,	40.41	
Postage and post-office box rent,	27.60	
Expressage and freight,	12.31	
Jobber,	6.00	
Cleaning clock,	2.50	
Incidentals,	3.49	162.01
1876, Jan. 1. Cash on hand,		$138.95

The payments for books and periodicals on the above two accounts have been as follows:

American Baptist Publication Society,	$1.25
E. Anthony,	1.50
E. Anthony & Sons,	6.00
Beach, Son & Co.,	.10
Butler & Fleetwood,	6.00
H. Vincent Butler,	24.00
S. R. Crocker,	2.00
Edwin Dews,	54.00
Mrs. S. B. Gardner,	8.50
Greenough & Co.,	2.00
F. Leypoldt,	9.50
A. L. Luyster,	1.80

Ebenezer W. Peirce,		5.00
Vincent Saull,		6.00
Schoenhof & Moeller,		2.30
Scribner, Welford & Armstrong,		7.20
Alfred Smith & Co.,		1.00
		$138.15
Paid from city appropriation,	$68.45	
Paid by librarian,	69.70	$138.15

TRUST ACCOUNTS.

SYLVIA ANN HOWLAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND.

1875, Jan. 2. Unexpended balance of income,		$9,793.07
One year's interest,		3,000.00
		$12,793.07
Bills approved (solely for books, periodicals and binding,) as follows:		
Feb. 6,	$111.34	
27,	159.84	
March 27,	235.08	
April 24,	272.03	
May 29,	389.98	
June 26,	42.51	
Aug. 28,	219.66	
Sept. 25,	102.53	
Oct. 30,	130.95	
Nov. 27,	196.74	
Dec. 29,	271.66	2,132.32
Balance unexpended,		$10,660.75

The detailed statement of expenditure from this fund is as follows:

Paid to John C. Allen,	$192.83
American Baptist Publication Society,	2.50
American Publishing Co.,	18.00
Benerman & Wilson,	4.00
Edward B. Bogg,	1.50
Boston Society of Natural History,	10.00
James Campbell,	52.43
John H. Carmany & Co.,	3.50
Catholic Publication Society,	4.18
William B. Dana & Co.,	8.20
Dawson Bros.,	3.37

Paid to Edwin Dews, binding,	55.50
Warren F. Draper,	3.50
Essex Institute,	3.00
William H. Farrington,	9.50
David G. Francis,	21.83
Harper & Bros.,	3.25
William T. Harris,	2.00
H. O. Houghton & Co.,	3.20
S. Hutchinson,	686.99
Johnson, Wilson & Co.,	15.00
Alice Lewis,	2.00
F. Leypoldt,	3.00
J. B. Lippincott & Co.,	6.00
Little, Brown & Co.,	4.75
Methodist Book Concern,	1.25
Munn & Co.,	2.70
New York Genealogical and Biographical Society,	2.00
Peabody Academy of Science,	19.50
Alonzo H. Quint,	186.43
E. P. Raymond,	3.00
A. H. Roffe & Co.,	113.00
Scribner & Co.,	3.20
Scribner, Welford & Armstrong,	390.11
Sheldon & Co.,	3.20
J. L. Sisson,	135.00
E. Steiger,	13.05
Ruth C. Thompson,	8.00
Benjamin R. Tucker,	3.50
U. S. Patent Office,	22.50
Universalist Publishing House,	2.50
F. D. Vaille,	39.00
D. Van Nostrand,	13.50
J. Watson & Co.,	32.97
B. Westermann & Co.,	17.88
	$2,132.32

GEORGE HOWLAND JUNIOR FUND.

1875, Jan. 2. Unexpended balance of income,	$135.97
One year's interest,	96.00
	$231.97
D. Van Nostrand's bill of books, approved May 29,	130.80
Balance unexpended,	$101.17

CHARLES W. MORGAN FUND.

1875, Jan. 2. Unexpended balance of income,	$93.47
One year's interest,	60.00
	$153.47
Bills approved July 31,	116.73
Balance unexpended,	$36.74

The detailed statement of expenditure from this fund, all of which was for books and periodicals, is as follows:

Paid to Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia,	$5.00
John C. Allen,	28.78
Charles C. Chatfield,	3.00
David G. Francis,	15.57
S. Hutchinson,	26.93
Massachusetts Historical Society,	4.00
A. H. Roffe & Co.,	17.25
Samuel Walker & Co.,	16.20
	$116.73

The total of unexpended income of funds in the control of the trustees is now as follows:

Sylvia Ann Howland Free Public Library fund,	$10,660.75
George Howland Junior fund,	101.17
Charles W. Morgan fund,	36.74
	$10,798.66

DONATIONS FOR THE YEAR 1875.

	Volumes. Bound.	Volumes. Unbound.	Pamphlets.
American Antiquarian Society,		1	1
American Philosophical Society,		1	
Baker, William G.,		4	
Boston Public Library,			6
Bowditch, W. I.,			1
Briggs, James C.,			1
Brown, H. A.,			1
Brownell, T. Frank,			1
Butler, James D.,	8		
Butler Hospital for the Insane,			1
Chase, Warren E.,		2	
Chicago Public Library,			1
Clark, W. S.,			1
Cobden Club,		1	5
Commonwealth of Massachusetts,	7		
Congdon, James B.,			151
Crapo, William W.,	1		
Cutter, Abram E.,		1	3
Denham, Edward,			2
Dennison, Tristram R.,			3
Dexter, Franklin B.,		1	
Dunbar, George H.,	4		
Earle, Pliny,			1
Farrington, William H.,		2	56
Friends' Library, Germantown,	1		
Gowan, F. B.,			1
Hartford Young Men's Institute,			1
Harvard College,			1
Hayward, A. S.,			1
Hough, George T.,			22
Howland, Abraham H., Jr.,	1		
Howland, George, Jr.,			1
Humphreys, A. A.,	2	1	5
Hutchinson, S.,		2	
Jackson, Samuel C.,			1
Johnson, Nathan,		3	

	Volumes. Bound.	Volumes. Unbound.	Pamphlets.
Lawrence Public Library,			4
Library Committee, Lancaster, Mass.,			1
Library Company, Philadelphia,			2
Library of Congress,	1		1
Lowell Library,			3
Mc Neil, George E.,			1
Mercantile Library Association, N. Y.,			2
Mercantile Library Association, San Francisco,			3
Mercantile Library Company, Philadelphia,			1
Merrill, Edward B.,			2
Morgan, S. Griffitts,	1	19	
Morse, Edward S.,			6
Newton Library,			1
Nye, Gideon, Jr.,			1
Peabody Education Fund,	1		
Peabody Institute, Danvers,			1
Peabody Institute, Peabody,			3
Peirce, Charles M., Jr.,			2
Pitman, Robert C.,			1
Potter, William J.,			1
Provincetown Public Library,			1
Quincy Public Library,			1
Quint, Alonzo H.,	8		6
Reed, Benjamin F. H.,		1	3
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute,			1
Richmond, George B.,	7		
Rodman, Edmund,			1
Rodman, Thomas R,	1		
Rotch, William,	3		
Smithsonian Institution,	2		
Springfield City Library Association,			1
Staples, S. E,			1
State Board of Health,		1	
Taunton Public Library,			1
Thomson, J. H.,		8	23
Trustees of Johns Hopkins Hospital,	1		
Tucker, Charles R., Jr.,	2		
United States Government:			
Bureau of Education,	2	1	1
Coast Survey,	1		
Department of the Interior,	50		
Engineer Department,			1
Patent Office,		3	
War Department,			1

	Volumes. Bound.	Volumes. Unbound.	Pamphlets.
Watertown Public Library,			1
Wayland Library Committee,			1
Willey, Henry,			1
Woburn Library Committee,			1
Wren, W. C.,			1
Yale College,			1
Young Men's Association, Buffalo,			1
Young Men's Christian Association, Worcester,			1
Young Men's Mercantile Library Association, Cincinnati,			1

NEWSPAPERS AND MAPS.

American Unitarian Association. The Christian Register, vol. 54, 1875.
— The Unitarian Review and Religious Magazine, vol. 4, 1875.
Denham, Edward. Photo-Lithographed Maps of North America, North Carolina, 1755; North Neck of Virginia, 1736–37.
Gerner, H. Patent Right Gazette, N. Y. 1875, 12 numbers.
Hathaway, Martin L. The New Bedford Evening Express, Feb. 27, 1856, to Nov. 13, 1856.
Leslie, E. N. Map of the Harbor and Town of New Bedford, by Capt. David Leslie.
Nye, Gideon, Jr. Bulletin Mensuel de la Société d'Acclimatation, 3e Série, Tome 2, 1875.
Reed, Benjamin F. H. The Rising Sun, Upton, Dec., 1874.
— The Seaside Gazette, July 7, 1874, to Aug. 31, 1874.
Waldron, Charles D. The Leisure Moment, Fall River and New Bedford, 1872, 22 numbers.
— The Weekly Star, New Bedford, 1872, 7 numbers.
White, Smith & Co. The Folio, Boston, 1875, 12 numbers.